Aston Medal

1911-1914

FRANCES BENJAMIN JOHNSTON
PHOTOGRAPHY
In Color - Architecture - Portraiture
55 IRVING PLACE, NEW YORK

Jan 24-1911.

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

TELEPHONE 2125 STUYVESANT

H. P. Browne Esq.

Dear Sir:-

Jam seeking informa
tion in regard to the Seloux
medal, a photograph
of which I enclose herewith.

I understand it was
struck by the first
John Jacob Astor in
his fur trading opera-
tions with the Indians

If you can refer me to any authority as to its history and probable value I shall be greatly indebted.

Very truly yours

Frances B. Johnston

PRESIDENT OF THE
AMERICAN FUR COMPANY

FOR
UNION
PEACE AND
FRIENDSHIP
U. A. O.

January 30, 1911.

Miss Frances P. Johnston,

55 Irving Place,

New York.

Dear Madam:

Your letter of January 24th to Mr. Henry R. Browne, came to hand some days ago.

The medal, of which you sent a photograph, is known as the "Astor Medal" and bears the bust of John Jacob Astor. It was issued by the American Fur Company for presentation to Indians and others probably between 1808 and 1811.

Fort Union was a distributing post of the American Fur Company located at the upper Missouri River. The medal is described in the American Journal of American Numismatics for July 1897 (Volume 32 - Part I). As to the value of the medal, it is, I believe, rather scarce and judging by the photograph it appears to be in a rather poor condition. It might be worth twenty or twenty five dollars. If it is for sale, I would be glad to see it.

Very truly yours,

Director.

May 15, 1914.

Mr. Frances Johnston
536 8th Avenue,
New York.

Dear Madam:-

In looking over some old correspondence, I found a letter from you dated January 24th , 1911, regarding one of the John Jacob Astor medals issued by the American Fur Company, for presentation to Indians about 1806 to 1811, to which letter I replied a few days later.

I would be greatly obliged if you would inform me if this medal is still in your possession, and if so, if it is for sale, as this Society would be glad to obtain one of these medals. If it is for sale, will you kindly inform me the amount asked for it.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.

FRANCES BENJAMIN JOHNSTON
MATTIE EDWARDS HEWITT
EXPERT PHOTOGRAPHY

TELEPHONE, BRYANT 440

536 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

May 23- 1914-

Barnum F. Belden Esq-

Dear Sir:-

During my absence from town, I have been delayed in answering your letter in regard to the Corbin medal.

The medal in question is owned by a friend in Washington and I am not certain that I will

in her possession.
She was to give Peacock
on it. If you will make
an offer, give it at once
submit it to my friend
and inquire at the same
time if she has it.

In connection with our
own work if you at any
time visit Medals Photo-
graphed we should be
pleased to submit you
estimates

Very truly Yours
(Miss) Frances B. Johnston

May 28, 1914.

Miss Frances E. Johnston
536 Fifth Avenue,
New York.

Dear Madam:-

Your letter of May 23rd has been duly received.

Regarding the Astor Medal, it is a little difficult to make an offer for it, not having seen it. The condition of course, has more or less to do with the value of a medal. I would say however, that if on inspection, the medal comes up to my expectations, I will be willing to give $75.00 for it.

If your friend will send it to you, I will be pleased to call at your studio and look at it, at such time as may be convenient to you. Our telephone number is Audubon 2484.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.

July 24th, 1914.

Miss Frances B. Johnston,
536 Fifth Avenue,
New York.

Dear Madam:-

Referring to our correspondence in May last regarding the Astor medal, I would be greatly obliged if you would inform me if you have ascertained whether your friend in Washington still has the medal and still desires to dispose of it, and also if she cared to consider the offer contained in my letter to you of May 28th.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.